



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

***Raised Bill No. 5285***

LCO No. 1101

Referred to Committee on Program Review and Investigations

Introduced by:  
(PRI)

***An Act Concerning The Commission On Human Rights And Opportunities.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 46a-52 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The commission shall consist of nine persons appointed with the  
4 advice and consent of both houses of the General Assembly. (1) On or  
5 before July 15, 1990, the Governor shall appoint five members of the  
6 commission, three of whom shall serve for terms of five years and two  
7 of whom shall serve for terms of three years. Upon the expiration of  
8 such terms, and thereafter, the Governor shall appoint either two or  
9 three members, as appropriate, to serve for terms of five years. On or  
10 before July 14, 1990, the president pro tempore of the Senate, the  
11 minority leader of the Senate, the speaker of the House of  
12 Representatives and the minority leader of the House of  
13 Representatives shall each appoint one member to serve for a term of  
14 three years. Upon the expiration of such terms, and thereafter,  
15 members so appointed shall serve for terms of three years. (2) If any  
16 vacancy occurs, the appointing authority making the initial

17 appointment shall appoint a person to serve for the remainder of the  
18 unexpired term. The Governor shall select one of the members of the  
19 commission to serve as chairperson for a term of one year. The  
20 commission shall meet at least once during each two-month period  
21 and at such other times as the chairperson deems necessary. Special  
22 meetings shall be held on the request of a majority of the members of  
23 the commission after notice in accordance with the provisions of  
24 section 1-225.

25 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 46a-57 of the general statutes is  
26 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

27 (d) On or after October 1, 1998, the executive director shall designate  
28 one human rights referee to serve as chief human rights referee for a  
29 term of one year. The Chief Human Rights Referee shall supervise and  
30 assign the human rights referees to conduct hearings on complaints,  
31 including complaints for which a trial on the merits has not  
32 commenced prior to October 1, 1998, on a rotating basis.  
33 Notwithstanding section 46a-54, the Chief Human Rights Referee shall  
34 establish uniform operating policies, procedures and guidelines to  
35 ensure consistent procedures governing hearing proceedings.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To require that the appointments of commissioners to the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities shall be subject to the advise and consent of both houses of the General Assembly and to require that the Chief Human Rights Referee shall establish uniform policies, procedures and guidelines for consistent hearing proceedings.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*